

**Remarks**

In the Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-53 "as being based upon a defective reissue declaration" because certain amendments were "not covered by the most recent, previous reissue declaration, received April 24, 2002." [See the Action at pages 2-3, ¶¶ 4 and 6.] The Examiner indicates that a supplemental reissue oath or declaration "must be received before this reissue application can be allowed," and that receipt of such an oath or declaration will overcome the rejection. [See the Action at page 3, ¶¶ 5 and 7.]

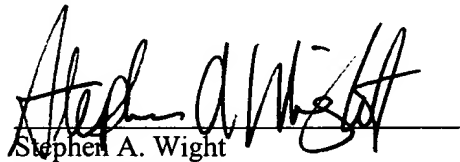
Per the Examiner's request, Applicants filed via facsimile two signed documents entitled "Supplemental Declaration for Reissue Patent Application to Correct Errors Statement" on November 30, 2004. Applicants received an Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission from the USPTO on November 30, 2004, acknowledging receipt of these supplemental declarations. The Action was mailed on December 2, 2004. However, it appears that the supplemental declarations were not received by the Examiner prior to the mailing of the Action. [See the Action at page 4, ¶ 9.] For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants enclose copies of documents relating to the supplemental declaration filing, including the acknowledgement from the USPTO.

Because the only rejection presented in the Action has already been addressed in Applicants' facsimile of November 30, 2004, the rejection should now be moot, and the reissue application should be in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney if anything further is required.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By

  
Stephen A. Wight

Registration No. 37,759

One World Trade Center, Suite 1600  
121 S.W. Salmon Street  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
Telephone: (503) 226-7391  
Facsimile: (503) 228-9446

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